

to enforce standards of conduct for mediators, and proceedings to enforce laws concerning juvenile or elder abuse.

(k) The Supreme Court may adopt standards for the certification and conduct of mediators and other neutrals who participate in settlement procedures conducted under this section. The standards may also regulate mediator training programs. The Supreme Court may adopt procedures for the enforcement of those standards. The administration of mediator certification, regulation of mediator conduct, and decertification shall be conducted through the Dispute Resolution Commission.

(l) An administrative fee not to exceed two hundred dollars (\$200.00) may be charged by the Administrative Office of the Courts to applicants for certification and annual renewal of certification for mediators and mediator training programs operating under this section. The fees collected may be used by the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts to establish and maintain the operations of the Commission and its staff. The administrative fee shall be set by the Director of the Administrative Office of the Courts in consultation with the Dispute Resolution Commission.

(m) The Administrative Office of the Courts, in consultation with the Dispute Resolution Commission, may require the chief district court judge of any district to report statistical data about settlement procedures conducted under this section for administrative purposes.

(n) Nothing in this section or in rules adopted by the Supreme Court implementing this section shall restrict a party's right to a trial by jury.

(o) The Supreme Court may adopt rules to implement this section."

SECTION 3. G.S. 7A-38.4A(o), as enacted by Section 2 of this act, becomes effective July 1, 2001. The remainder of this act becomes effective October 1, 2001.

In the General Assembly read three times and ratified this the 19th day of July, 2001.

Became law upon approval of the Governor at 12:27 p.m. on the 28th day of July, 2001.

H.B. 765

SESSION LAW 2001-321

AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE VANCE COUNTY TO LEVY AN
ADDITIONAL THREE PERCENT ROOM OCCUPANCY TAX
AND TO MAKE OTHER CHANGES TO THE VANCE
COUNTY ROOM OCCUPANCY TAX.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts: